REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Specification

The Examiner objected that the information regarding earlier applications cited at pages 9-11, 15 and 19 had not been updated. Appropriate corrections have therefore been made.

Claims

The Examiner rejected claims 1-32. By this amendment claims 1, 7, 9, 14-15, 18-19, 21-22, 24-26, 28, 35, 37-39, 42-43, 45-46, and 48-50 have been amended, and claims 2-3, and 18 have been cancelled. Therefore claims 1, 4-17, and 19-32 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 5-14, 17, 24-26, and 28-30 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent 5,625,833 to Levine et al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Levine et al. disclose a data processing system that provides for annotation of a document with annotations input through an electronic tablet. That is very different from the present invention where data from a note-taking session are captured using a writing implement that interacts with coded data on printed paper pages.

To further clarify the above distinction between the disclosure of Levine et al. and the present invention, the present independent claims have been amended to state explicitly that the pages of the present invention are printed paper pages and that each page includes coded data indicative of an identity of the page and of a plurality of reference points on the page, the coded data identifying a unique location of each of the reference points relative to the page.

Support for the plurality of pages being printed paper pages is found in the specification as originally filed at page 9, lines 26-31, where the pages are referred to as "netpages":

> "In its preferred form, the netpage system relies on the production of, and human interaction with, netpages. These are pages of text, graphics and images printed on ordinary paper or other media, but which work like interactive web pages. Information is encoded on each page using ink which is substantially invisible to the unaided human eye. The ink, however, and thereby the coded data, can be sensed by an optically imaging pen and transmitted to the netpage system."

Support for the plurality of pages including coded data indicative of the identity of a page is found in the specification as originally filed at page 13, lines 22-25, where the coded data are referred to as "tags":

> "Each reference to the page description is encoded in a printed tag. The tag identifies the unique page on which it appears, and thereby indirectly identifies the page description. The tag also identifies its own position on the page. Characteristics of the tags are described in more detail below.

Further support for the coded data identifying a unique location of each of the reference points relative to the page is found in the specification as originally filed at page

18, lines 25-29, where the "writing implement" of the present claims is referred to as a "pen":

> *"A location-indicating tag contains a tag ID which, when translated through the tag map associated with the tagged region, yields a unique tag location within the region. The tag-relative location of the pen is added to this tag location to yield the location of the pen within the region. This in turn is used to determine the location of the pen relative to a user interface element in the page description associated with the region."*

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103

The Examiner rejected claims 2-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Levine et al. in view of Wolff et al., US Pat. 6,081,261. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Wolff et al. disclose an electronic document handling system including a calendar book page with a bar code identifier (13), which identifier (13) specifies "the date (year, month, and day) and user I.D." (Wolff et al. at col. 3, lines 45-46.) That is very different from the present invention that includes coded data on printed paper pages where the coded data itself identifies a unique location of each of a plurality of reference points on the pages.

Wolff et al. disclose identifying locations in a calendar book using gyroscopes or accelerometers in a pen-instrument (91) (see, e.g., col. 7, lines 15-29). However, as explained above and defined in the presently amended claims, the coded data of the present invention includes its own position information that explicitly informs a sensing device where the coded data are relative to a page. That makes complex gyroscopes and double integration of accelerometer data unnecessary.

The Examiner rejected claims 15-16, 18-23, 27 and 31-32 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Levine et al. in view of various combinations of Wolff et al., Tonkin et al. (US Pat. 6,616,702), Moran et al. (US Pat. 5,717,879), and Copperman et al. (US Pat.6,665,490). The Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections are now moot in light of the present amendments to the independent claims. None of the cited references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the limitations of the presently amended claims.

Therefore it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Appln No. 09/721,894
Amdt. Dated July 27, 2004
Response to Office action of May 20, 2004   14

Very respectfully,

Applicant:

KIA SILVERBROOK

PAUL LAPSTUN

C/o: Silverbrook Research Pty Ltd
                393 Darling Street
                Balmain NSW 2041, Australia

Email: kia.silverbrook@silverbrookresearch.com

Telephone: +612 9818 6633

Facsimile: +61 2 9555 7762